

County School News.

By Mary E. Todd.

DECEMBER VERSE

If we knew what hearts are aching for the comfort we might bring;
If we knew what souls are yearning for the sunshine we might fling;
If we knew what feet were weary walking pathways roughly laid,
We would quickly hasten forward stretching forth our hands to aid.

If we knew what friends around us feel a want they never tell,
That some word that we had spoken pained or wounded where it fell,
We would speak in accents tender to such friend we chanced to meet;
We would give to each one freely smiles of sympathy so sweet.

Blaming the other fellow always fools yourself. Nothing goes out of your life but to make room for something better. Let us see that we turn everything to beautiful results.

A puzzling problem for parents is what to do with their boys and girls after they have completed the course offered in the common schools. We want right here to thank several of the Seward county teachers for trying to keep such pupils in touch with school life by giving them a few of the branches, at least, of the first year's work in H. S., and reviewing their weakest branches in the Ninth Grade. Next year if crops are better they may be able to leave home and attend school at Manhattan or Emporia or the Barnes High School in Liberal. Just one year at Manhattan would open a new world to the common school graduates.

THE STATE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

The needs of the boys and girls on the farms of Kansas both for right training toward manhood and womanhood and for right vocational education, especially in Agriculture were considered essentials in guiding the educational progress of the state at the sessions of the Kansas State Teachers' Association which met in Topeka on Thursday and Friday, November 9-10.

In the addresses by speakers from within and without the state, in the general discussions, in the spontaneous comments of teachers, and finally in the election of Henry Jackson Waters president of the Kansas State Agricultural college as the executive head of the association for the ensuing year, the convention showed unprecedented interest in vocational education in general and in agricultural training in particular. An unmistakable stamp of approval was placed on the idea of training the boys and girls to be not only cultured and good, but efficient and useful. Everywhere in the sessions of the association the thought of usefulness as a keynote of education was manifest.

The new school laws have come—one for each district. Come and get them soon.

Little Mary went into the country on a visit to her grandmother. Walking in the garden she chanced to spy a peacock, a bird she had never seen. She ran quickly into the house and cried out: "O, Grandma, come and see. There's an old chicken out there in full bloom. Come quick."

Do you sing? Have you taught the scale? How many new songs have you taught your pupils?

The course of study is well planned. If you have difficulty in meeting its requirements, look well to your methods of teaching. You can do it if you will.

Do you know a teacher that "nags unconsciously? Have you heard a fellow say: "Now, you must study more." "You do not seem to have studied your lesson." "Have you read your lesson over?" "If you don't study now you will have to stay in at recess," etc., etc? Don't nag. It does no good.

Parents, invite your neighbors and visit the school. How does the school room look? How can it be improved? Are the boys and girls busy in the right way? Are they doing some THINKING or is it mere memory work? Does the teacher confine herself to the book or is she resourceful? Your visit will bear fruit.

Several teachers ask us whether they should try to take the January examination to secure a higher certificate. Our answer has been in variably, NO. Our reasons are that your time is not your own, when you have contracted to teach. Successful teaching requires much daily preparation—much reading—and plenty of physical out door exercise as well as some recreation. The additional strain—as it is likely to be—reduces the teacher's vitality, and she would do better work if her mind were not so occupied. Do one thing at a time and do that one thing well.

Isn't it a waste of time to tell pupils to study, when they do not know how to study? What do you mean by STUDY, anyhow? Get the Reading Circle Book. "How to Study and Teaching How to Study"—make a study of it and then you can successfully teach your pupils "how to

study." As is the teacher, so is the school.

We spent Thanksgiving Day in District No. 7, Antelope Valley, at the school house with the children and patrons of the district and some invited guests. A fine program was rendered in the morning, by Miss Vivian Jones' pupils. The program was followed by a splendid dinner, such as only farmers know how to give. Antelope Valley has the name of having some of the finest cooking in Seward county. Since Thanksgiving Day we sincerely believe it to be true. Thanks to Mrs. Seely for an extra good time.

Edna George, who is attending school with her sister, Maud, in Milford, Texas, writes us: Dear Mrs. Todd:—I am ashamed of myself for not answering your letter sooner, but you know how it is—I guess—when you are going to school. It is not that I did not appreciate your nice, long letter, for I certainly did. The new pipe organ is here and they have begun putting it up and will probably have it ready for the Thanksgiving service. One of the oldest T. P. C. graduates is here visiting. She has been a missionary and she gave the Reading Circle a talk about the people of the Mountains. It was real interesting but funny. She said the people were uneducated and large families lived in only one room—probably ten or twelve children to a family—that the girls were compelled to work harder than the boys and some of the girls were compelled to take care of large corn fields and were made to work in the fields all the year round. The women were treated something like our Indians treated their squaws. My, but I am glad I am a Kansas girl, and not a mountain girl. Last year the T. P. C. girls sent \$50.00 to her and she paid that on a girl's education and it is sending her to a girls' school. Well, I wonder if you are tired of reading about missionary work. The Seniors are to give a play some time soon and the different Literary Societies are going to give a bazaar before Christmas to furnish money to pay on the Larkspur, the yearly book the school uses out. Now Mrs. Todd, you must answer real soon. We both send you our love.

Lovingly,
EDNA GEORGE.

The Reading Circle Books: "How to Study and Teaching How to Study" and "The Teaching of Geography" will be a help to you in your school work. They will be a means of creating interest, of securing better work, and of making discipline easy. Do not wait until the teacher's examination and then try to get a superficial knowledge of the books. Use them now—that is the intention of the Board and Reading Circle.

The teachers of Seward county will hold their next Association next Saturday afternoon, December 9. It is as far for the teachers in the northern and eastern parts of the county to come to Liberal that we hold these meetings in three other places besides Liberal—Kismet, Springfield and Obern. We hope every teacher in the county may be able to attend one of these meetings, at least. We have a few of the Reading Circle books. These books were adopted and selected by the state for the teachers of the entire state to read and study. They are GOOD for both the experienced teacher and the beginner. Teachers, please read your contracts and see what it says about the Reading Circle books and the Associations.

Miss Rebecca Carter, who is the primary teacher in Optima, and her sister, Miss Mary Carter, accompanied by Messrs. Gill and McNutt, came down from Optima Thanksgiving to eat turkey with Mr. Haddock Lane and family. Mrs. Mollie Lane is Miss Rebecca's and Miss Mary's aunt. Word of the Carter family intended to come but they could not get away. They remained over until Friday evening. They all came over to the office and made us a pleasant call. Miss Sarah and Margaret Lane came with them. Miss Rebecca intended to go to Guyton Saturday to the teachers' association, which meets there. We hope they will call on us when they come again.

Be sure and answer roll call with a quotation in mathematical geography, December 9th, at the Teachers' meetings at the various divisions in the county.

We visited grades 7 and 8 in the Liberal schools, district number two the past week. The pupils in grade 8 were taking an examination in Arithmetic and History, while the pupils in grade 7 were copying compositions in their note books which had been corrected. There were 38 present in grade 8 and 43 present in grade 7. We found a boy 20 years old in grade 7. We wanted to shake hands with him.

The next Teachers' meeting will be December 9, 1911

Obern—Bessie Odneal, Geog. III. Laura McElhinney, Geog. IV and V.

Susan Elissaesser, Geog. VI. Mrs. Day. How to Study Chaps. III, and Lida Hanson, Chapter IV. Kismet—Geo. L. Light, Chapter IV. How to Study—Grace Gleason. Chap. III Geog.—Mrs. Rogers Chapt. IV Geog. Hazel Whittaker Chapt. V Geog. and Ethan Green Chapter VI Geog.

Springfield—Clara Elissaesser How to Study Chapt. III. Clara Childers, Chapter IV. Geography—L. P. Eastburn Chapt. III Edna Stevenson Chapt. IV—Arie Evans Chapt. V and F. W. Taylor Chapt. VI.

Liberal—How to Study, Mrs. Vickers Chapt. III—Miss Jones Chapt. IV—Mr. Martin Chapter IV (continued) Geography Miss Marriage Chapt. III Mr. Fullmer Chapter IV Mr. Lawrence Chapter V Miss Gamler Chapt. VI.

The parents are invited to these meetings and are welcome. Come and help. Boys and girls who are thinking of becoming teachers are also welcome.

Phelps And His Teachers.

PHELPS IN THE THIRD GRADE

Phelps had gone along smoothly enough, though it was apparent to his mother that he did not love his teacher. He had often tried but had never found any response. Of course Phelps did not know what the trouble was nor did he bother his mind with it. But one day he found a combination in his number work on which he thought he needed help, so he went to Miss Noyes and asked her to show him how to do it.

Miss Noyes at that moment was thinking out a speech she wanted to make that very night at the lodge meeting of the Lady Highlanders.

and had arrived at a very critical point when Phelps ran in his sordid questions about numbers. It was a provoking matter in the extreme, so, in a sharp tone she said: "Why, you can do that—you understand that!" "No, ma'am, I don't," said Phelps. "You do to, I tell you. You can do that if you want to." "I can't do it, either, if I want to," retorted Phelps, now thoroughly angered. "Phelps," she exclaimed loudly, "aren't you ashamed of yourself, sir? Go right to your seat at once."

Now a strange fatality happened. Phelps first teacher, ignorant and selfish as she was, had learned early in Phelps' career that he had a nervous affection, which, when angered, caused the muscles of his face to twitch in a very conspicuous manner. Marie Anderson knew it within an hour after she saw him for the first time, but Miss Noyes always absorbed in herself, never saw it until this eventful day. It was not very noticeable except when he was angered, so this day when Miss Noyes ordered him to his seat in such harsh tones he was so aroused that his face drew into all sorts of contortions, so that even Miss Noyes could not fail to see it. Every child in school knew of his affliction and was so used to it they paid no attention to ordinary expressions.

When Miss Noyes saw it she immediately arrived at the conclusion that Phelps was "making faces" at her, so she jumped up, jerked him out of his seat, and without further questioning, took him into the cloak room and whipped him. The first impression the principal had of the trouble was a terrible thought that a horse had fallen into the basement and was struggling up the stairs. Later, however, he was appealed to for sympathy, as Phelps had tried to defend himself with teeth and nails, leaving several painful marks on Miss Noyes' hands.

HOLIDAY IDEAS



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1911 RECORDS

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2nd—UNDERWOOD	Florence E. Wilson	111	" "
3rd—UNDERWOOD	Rose L. Fritz	107	" "
4th—UNDERWOOD	E. A. Trefzger	107	" "
5th—UNDERWOOD	J. L. Hoyt	106	" "
World's Amateur Championship (Thirty Minutes)			
1st—UNDERWOOD	Gus R. Trefzger	98	words per minute
2nd—UNDERWOOD	Margaret B. Owen	98	" "
3rd—UNDERWOOD	Bessie Friedman	90	" "
4th—UNDERWOOD	Lottie E. Betts	83	" "
World's School Championship (Fifteen Minutes)			
1st—UNDERWOOD	William F. Oswald	77	words per minute
World's Eidsen Transcribing Contest (Ten Minutes)			
1st—UNDERWOOD	Lottie E. Betts	63	" "

NOTE—Above records are net. Five words were deducted for each and every error

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ALWAYS HAPPENS—THIS WAY

Man Carefully Preserves New Straw Hat, Only to Get It Wet First Time Out.

"Every year when I get my new straw hat to start the season with I am at first very careful of it. If the weather is the least bit threatening I don't wear it. Each morning I scan the sky and if I see any portent of a shower, or if the wind is east or there is any indication whatever of unsettled weather I don't wear the straw, for I don't want to get it wet. Once wet it is never the same. "And then on some day whereof the morn is serene and sunny and there is not the slightest sign of any sort of weather I put my new hat on and wear it, not ostentatiously but still inwardly proud, and then as sure as fate on that same afternoon we get a shower. And so, after all my care, precaution and self-denial, I get my new hat wet the first time I wear it. "I don't know why this is so, but this is as it always happens."

WHEN LOBSTERS WERE CHEAP

In Old Maine Days \$2 Bought Several Hundred as Feed for the Pigs.

The lobster was not always the aristocrat of the supper table and the most costly of delicacies. A man who used to live in Maine, but now lives in Ohio, has this reminiscence, according to a writer in the Cleveland Leader:

One day here in Cleveland I took a friends out to luncheon and suddenly the old appetite for lobster came back to both of us, as we were both born on the Maine coast.

We had two full portions and the bill was \$2. And yet as a boy I've seen my father standing on the wharf bargaining with a fisherman for his lobster catch of the day, and often, for \$2, I've seen the lobster fisherman turn over to my father the entire catch and the whole boatload—250 or 300 big, black lobsters, perhaps—would be dumped on the landing and taken back on our old farm as feed for the pigs.

ACCUSTOMED TO ORDER.

The great baseball player's wife had never seen a game, but he finally persuaded her to view one in which he was to play. He was doing his best, of course. One strike had been called on him and, as usual in baseball anecdotes, two men were out and the bases were full. Our hero was gathering his strength for the swat he was going to give the ball. And the ball came. He knew it was his as the ball started, and with a mighty crack he lifted it into space. Dropping his bat, he sped for first, and ere the roar of applause burst out, a slight woman in the grandstand rose and called: "Will, come back here and put that bat where it belongs!"

NOSES IN JAPAN.

The nose plays a very important part in Japan, owing, probably, to the fact that a difference in noses constitutes about the only distinction between one Japanese and another. The nose is the only feature which attracts attention. As there are very few large noses to be found in Japan, a lady with a large nose is regarded as one specially gifted by nature. She is invariably a reigning beauty and the envy of her less favored sisters. In all Japanese pictures in which ladies are portrayed the artists are particularly careful to make the nose of liberal dimensions.

MATHEMATICAL REASONS.

"Seine makers ought to be rich men."
"Why?"
"Because their sales are all net receipts."

HIS IDEA OF BONES.

Teacher—Can you tell me how many bones are in the human body, Tommy?
Tommy—Does you mean in shad season or at other times, teacher?

EXHAUSTS THE SUPPLY.

Peck—I tell you it takes a lot of courage to propose.
Heck—Yes, so much that many of you husbands never have any afterward.

AMBIGUOUS.

"Is your son out of danger yet?"
"No, the doctor is going to make three or four more visits."

S. W. SMITH

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References:

Democrat office, Liberal, Kans.

Go To California This Winter

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No. 2, "	11:20 a. m.
No. 34, "	2:35 a. m.

WEST BOUND.	
No. 83, except Sunday, "	6:00 p. m.
No. 1, "	1:45 p. m.
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No. 33, "	1:45 a. m.

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THE DARWINIAN THEORY.



Count De Bree—I would like to show you my family tree.
"Miss Gottrox—Oh! please do; I've never seen a coconut tree!"